

that only a tenth of this amount is provided for opening new Panchayat roads.

I would, therefore, suggest that the scope of the Panchayats be widened, and a more sympathetic policy adopted in its administration. The Panchayats are hereafter to be made self-sufficient units in social organisation. They have to be provided with buildings to transact their business, Anchal Offices, agricultural depots and allopathic or Ayurvedic dispensaries. Every Panchayat should maintain a stud bull for the improvement of the cattle breed of the country. For the efficient administration of work, every Panchayat must be provided with a clerk and a peon. I believe these matters would engage the consideration of the Government.

Stamps and Anchal.

I now proceed to the Department of Stamps and Anchal. Here I reiterate the suggestions of the Finance Committee to have the stamps manufactured locally, and thus save a good deal of expenditure. The Anchal charges are very excessive, when we consider that the extent of activities of the Department is very small. Further it is deplorable that in most of the villages in the State we have Anchal service only twice a week. More Anchal Offices have to be started, at least one for every Panchayat. The surplus income from this Department would certainly justify us in making it more useful to the public.

Public Works Department.

Now, Sir, I come to the Public Works Department. Indeed it would be with feelings of sorrow mingled with surprise that you would compare the conditions of the roads in the State with the amounts allotted for the annual maintenance of these roads. This Department is eating up about 20 per cent of the revenues of the State. The amount budgetted for 1924 goes even beyond the expectations of the Finance Committee by Rs. 3,80,800. I do not know how this unprecedented increase could be justified or accounted for.

If we go through the detailed estimate for roads, you will find that, throughout the State, provision is made for the maintenance of the road at a rate varying from Rs. 175 to Rs. 820 per mile. Besides this high figure, you find that a sum of Rs. 42,251 is allotted for the special renewal of roads. Under this head we find in Appendix B pages 2 to 9 of the preliminary budget round sums of Rs. 5,000 and Rs. 10,000 being allotted for special renewals of roads. The particulars of the roads to be renewed are not even mentioned. If, as a matter of fact, the roads in the State are being properly maintained, and the amounts for the annual maintenance are being expended, I fail to see why and how special renewal to the roads becomes